

IN THE MATTER OF * **BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE**
JULIA IRENE WALLACE * **BOARD FOR THE CERTIFICATION**
RCYCP APPLICANT * **OF RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE**
CASE NUMBER: 19-008 * **PROGRAM PROFESSIONALS**

* * * * *

CONSENT ORDER OF REPRIMAND

On or about May 15, 2018, Julia Irene Wallace (the “Applicant”) submitted an initial certification application for Residential Child and Youth Care Practitioner to the Maryland Board for the Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals (the “Board”). Upon completion of a criminal history record check as required by Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. Article (“H.O.”) § 20-302, the Board discovered that the Applicant had a criminal history. The Board initiated an investigation. The Applicant submitted to the Board four (4) narrative statements regarding her conviction.

Based upon the Applicant’s certification application, the court documents obtained during the Board’s investigation, and the Applicant’s narrative statements, the Board voted to offer a Consent Order of Reprimand to the Applicant, in lieu of issuing Charges for violations of the Maryland Residential Child Care Program Professionals Act (the “Act”), H.O. § 20-101 *et seq.* As a result of that offer, the Applicant and the Board agreed to the following Consent Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board finds that:

1. On or about May 15, 2018, the Applicant submitted to the Board an initial certification application for Residential Child and Youth Care Practitioner (the “Application”).

2. In the character and fitness portion of the Application, the Applicant answered “NO” to Question 4: “Have you pled guilty, to, [sic] nolo contendere, been convicted of, or received probation before judgment for any criminal act (excluding misdemeanor traffic violations)?”

3. Court records obtained by the Board indicate that on October 6, 1995, in the Superior Court of California for San Diego County, the Applicant was convicted of fraudulently obtaining food stamp benefits. The Applicant was sentenced to one (1) day incarceration with credit for time served and five (5) years unsupervised probation. The Applicant was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,316.00 and participate in one-hundred (100) hours community service.

4. On or about June 19, 2018, the Applicant submitted her first narrative statement to the Board referencing her criminal history. The Applicant stated that she marked “No” on her application in response to the criminal background question “because [she] had no idea that [she] had a fraud record stemming from 1994; [she] did not commit this fraud...[she] never knew that [she] was charged with food stamp fraud and perjury on November 8, 1994.”

5. On or about July 3, 2018, the Applicant submitted her second narrative statement to the Board wherein she denied committing “the food stamp fraud found in [her] background fingerprint check...[b]ecause [she] was working full time...[she] never applied for food stamps.” The Applicant further denied ever being arrested, incarcerated or “called to court.” She stated that the information was completely new to her.

6. In her third narrative statement dated July 24, 2018, the Applicant made the following admission to the Board:

This is when I started to remember why I was sent to the court in 1994; I was notified and agreed with the information regarding the fraud. I was asked to do 100 hours of community service, which I did complete and I fully understand that I was to report when I no longer needed TANF and Food Stamp services. It has been over 23 years that I have not committed any type of fraud and I was never aware that it could affect my background checks...

7. In her final narrative to the Board dated July 25, 2018, the Applicant stated the reason that she did not disclose her criminal background on her Application was:

[A]t the time I did not remember having that or going to court until I recently received documentation outlining what happened in 1994. That was when I remembered going to court and doing 100 hours of community service as a consequence of my inadvertent fraud that I did not intend to commit.

8. On or about November 9, 2018, the Applicant met with Board representatives at an informal meeting. The Applicant testified that she had no idea that her criminal conviction would appear on a background check as this was the first time she had been fingerprinted. She stated that she has learned that she must disclose her conviction on applications in the future.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the Board concludes that the Applicant violated Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 20-313(b)(1) (“Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a certificate for a program administrator or residential child and youth care practitioner, or for another...”), in that the Applicant did not disclose her criminal conviction on her Application

for certification.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the request by the Applicant for certification to practice as a residential child and youth care practitioner in the State of Maryland is hereby **GRANTED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Board shall **ISSUE** to the Applicant a certification to practice as a residential child and youth care practitioner in the State of Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that the certification of the Applicant to practice as a residential child and youth care practitioner in the State of Maryland is hereby **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that the Applicant shall comply with the Maryland Residential Child Care Program Professionals Act, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. §§ 20-101 *et seq.*, and all federal and State laws and regulations governing the practice as a residential child and youth care practitioner in Maryland; and it is further

ORDERED that this document is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** under Md. Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-101, *et seq.*

9/24/19
Date

Krystal Holland
Krystal Holland, Chair
Maryland State Board for the Certification of Residential
Child Care Program Professionals

CONSENT

By this Consent, I acknowledge that I have read this Consent Order in its entirety and I hereby admit the truth of the Findings of Fact and accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions. I acknowledge the legal authority and jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order. I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to legal counsel authorized to practice law in Maryland, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to request subpoenas for witnesses, to call witnesses on my own behalf, to introduce testimony and evidence on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law. I waive these rights, as well as any appeal rights under Maryland Code Annotated, State Government Article § 10-222.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with an attorney, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, terms, and effect of this Consent Order.

8.17.2019

Date



Julia Irene Wallace

NOTARIZATION

STATE: Maryland

CITY/COUNTY: Howard County

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 27th day of August, 2019, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared **Julia Irene Wallace** and made oath in due form of law that signing the foregoing Consent Order of Reprimand was the voluntary act and deed of **Julia Irene Wallace**.

AS WITNESSETH my hand and Notarial Seal.

SEAL

Emily Ann Hicks

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: April 10, 2021

Emily Ann Hicks
Notary Public - Maryland
My Commission Expires
April 10, 2021